

Appin No. 10/760249
Amdt. Dated: September 22, 2006
Response to Office Action of July 18, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated July 18, 2006. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claim 5 has been amended to clarify that it is directed to a cartridge for user insertion and replacement in a printer. Furthermore, the features of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 5. In light of this, claim 2 has been cancelled. Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 2 and 5

Claims 2 to 5 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of the disclosure in US 6,488,422 in the Silverbrook.

The Applicant disagrees. Firstly, the printhead assembly 10 is not a cartridge. It is intended to be permanently mounted within a printer. The invention of claim 5 is a cartridge which is well understood to be a user replaceable component of a larger device. Defining the invention to be cartridge carries with it inherent limitations that would be immediately understood by the addressee. Nevertheless, claim 5 has been amended to explicitly incorporate the limitations of an inkjet printer cartridge – i.e. it is configured for user insertion into, and removal from, a printer.

Secondly, the ink ducts 40 in the '422 printhead assembly are clearly conduits and not storage reservoirs as required by amended claim 5. The ducts do not have the capacity to store sufficient ink which would drain out through the open inlet ports 34. The inlet ports are fixed to the hoses 94 and the ink valves 95. The ink valve 95 connect to the cassette 93 which is the only user replaceable component in the '422 printer.

The present invention defines a refillable cartridge. The ink colors can be individually replenished and eventually the entire cartridge can be user replaced. This is not described suggested in the cited reference.

In light of the above, '422 does not anticipate claims 1 to 4.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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